

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 SAJ-01 IO-10 NIC-01 /080 W

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R 060852Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9566

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, RP

SUBJECT: PHILIPPINE PRESS CARRIES NCNA STORY PRAISING
SEASIAN LEADERS

1. ACCORDING TO AFP VERSION OF NCNA STORY CARRIED BY
TWO OUT OF THREE MAJOR MANILA DAILIES ON JAN 6, NCNA
HAS PRAISED MARCOS AND OTHER SEASIAN LEADERS FOR CARRYING
ON STRUGGLE AGAINST POWER POLITICS AND HEGEMONISM IN THE
REGION. STORY SAID MALAYSIA, PHILIPPINES, INDONESIA,
THAILAND AND SINGAPORE WERE PART OF "THIRD WORLD;" THAT
BOTH US AND USSR WERE EXPLOITING ASIAN PEOPLE AND PLUNDERING
THEIR RESOURCES.

2. AFP QUOTES NCNA ORIGINAL AS SAYING QUOTE: THE SOUTH-
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EAST ASIAN COUNTRIES ALWAYS MAINTAIN VIGILANCE AGAINST

SOVIET SOCIAL-IMPERIALISM'S DESIGNS TO OBTAIN BASES AND PORTS AND ITS SPYING ACTIVITIES IN THIS REGION. THEY HAVE COME TO SEE MORE CLEARLY THAT THE ROOT CAUSE OF DISTURBANCE IN THIS REGION IS THE CONTENTION BETWEEN THE TWO SUPER-POWERS, THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES, PARTICULARLY THE FORMER'S INTENSIFYING ATTEMPTS AT INFILTRATION AND EXPANSION IN THIS REGION. END QUOTE. (AFP VERSION MAKES NO MENTION OF ANY DIRECT REFERENCE TO US AS OPPOSED TO SOVIET BASES.)

3. STORY PRAISES MARCOS FOR HAVING DECLARED EXPIRATION OF LAUREL-LANGLEY AND ANNULLED PRIVILEGES ENJOYED BY AMERICANS, AND LAUDS MALIK, TENGKU ABDUL RAHMAN AND CHARUMPHAN ISRANGKUN NA AYUTHAYA FOR HAVING MADE SIMILAR STATEMENTS.

4. COMMENT: IT IS INTERESTING THAT THIS STORY SHOULD APPEAR IN CONTROLLED MANILA PRESS DAY AFTER DEPARTURE OF MANSFIELD PARTY. PRESUMABLY IT CAN BE TAKEN AS ONE MORE TOKEN OF GOP ANXIETY TO DEMONSTRATE THAT PHILIPPINES FOREIGN POLICY IS AS FREE AND INDEPENDENT AS ANYONE ELSE'S. FACT THAT NO SPECIFIC DEROGATORY REFERENCE MADE TO US BASES MAKES STORY PARTICULARLY USEFUL FROM MANILA'S POINT OF VIEW, ALTHOUGH USSR MAY NOT APPRECIATE BEING SINGLED OUT IN PHILIPPINE PRESS AS HOSTILE SUPER POWER.

5. WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN KNOWING WHETHER AFP VERSION IS ACCURATE; WHETHER SUCH RELATIVELY LAVISH PRAISE OF SEASIAN LEADERS REPRESENTS NEW DEPARTURES FOR PEKING; AND WHETHER OMISSION OF REFERENCE TO US BASES WOULD APPEAR TO BE DELIBERATE.
SULLIVAN

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